

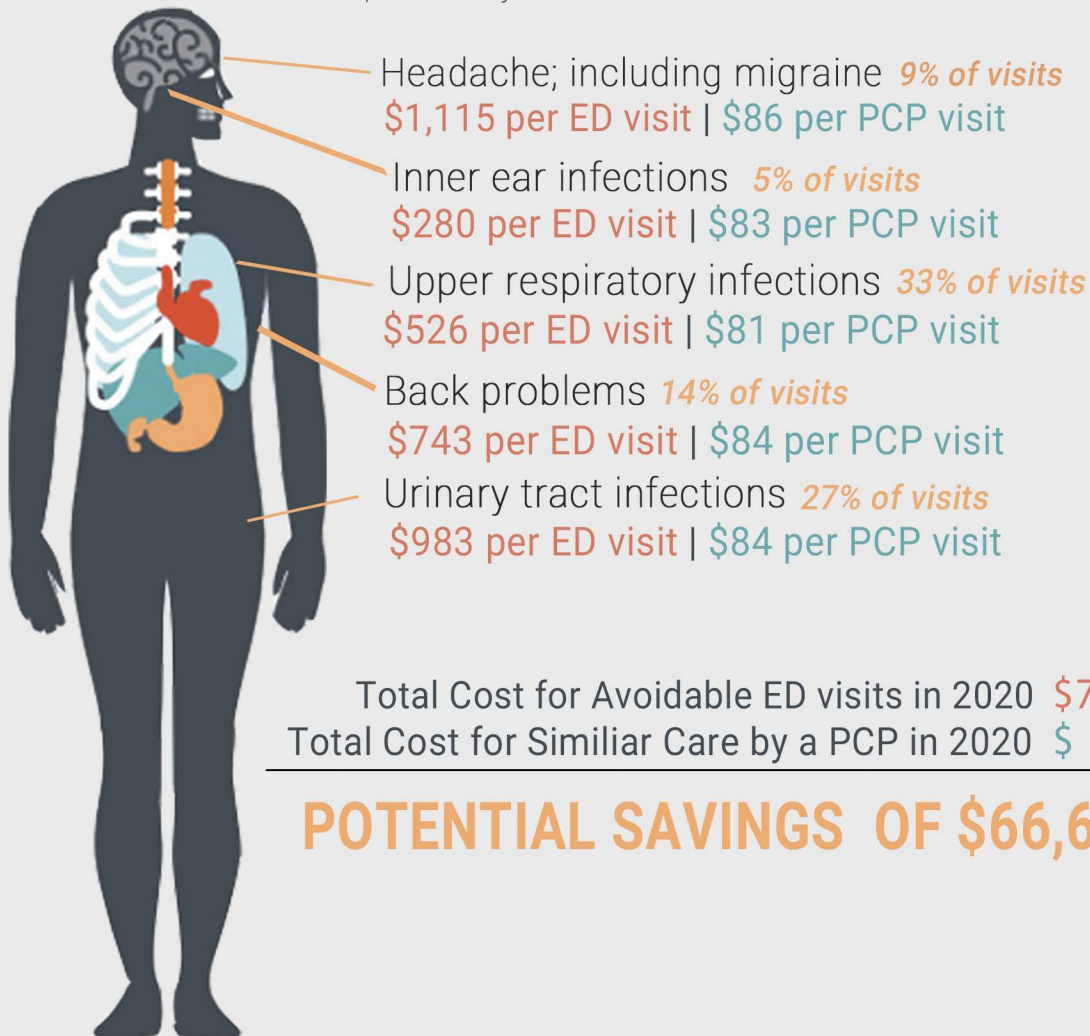
# POTENTIALLY AVOIDABLE ED VISITS IN 2020



An emergency department (ED) visit is considered **potentially avoidable**<sup>1</sup> when the care provided may have been more appropriately managed by a primary care practitioner (PCP) in a lower cost setting, such as a physician's office.

## COMMON AVOIDABLE VISITS ACROSS VIRGINIA

Of the 113,464 potentially avoidable ED visits, **88%** were for:



Total Cost for Avoidable ED visits in 2020 **\$75,000,318**  
Total Cost for Similiar Care by a PCP in 2020 **\$ 8,310,142**

### POTENTIAL SAVINGS OF \$66,690,177

These visits have a large impact on the cost of healthcare for all Virginians.

Using data from the Virginia All Payer Claims Database (APCD), Virginia Health Information identified that **about 10%** of the 1.1 million ED visits in 2020 may have potentially been avoided and treated with lower cost care in a PCP's office.

<sup>1</sup>Potentially avoidable ED visits were defined using the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) methodology. Other methodologies for potentially avoidable ED visits exist, which could produce different results.

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